

Oklahoma Crop Weather



USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service
Oklahoma Field Office

cooperating with Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

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Small Grain Conditions Worsen

Oklahoma experienced another week of above normal temperatures and high winds. All districts except the Central district received some precipitation, but not enough to moisten the dry topsoil or improve small grain conditions. Among the districts, the Southeast district reported the most precipitation last week with almost a half inch of rain. Small grain conditions continued to dwindle due to the dry conditions and limited rainfall. Growers continued to be concerned about the yield of the small grain crops. Ninety-six percent of the topsoil moisture and 93 percent of the subsoil moisture was in the short to very short range. There were 6.6 days suitable for field work.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	62	34	4	0
Last Week	44	42	14	0
Last Year	23	41	35	1

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	59	34	7	0
Last Week	55	35	10	0
Last Year	9	30	59	2

Small Grains: Wheat remained predominately in poor to very poor condition. Many districts reported stunted wheat height and delayed head filling because of the lack of moisture. Wheat growers were beginning to file claims for drought damaged grain. They were grazing out the wheat or cutting it for hay. Wheat and rye continued to show signs of stress and dryland root rot was seen in some fields. Wheat jointing was nearly complete. Wheat heading was at 78 percent, 36 points above last week's revised headed estimate of 42 percent. This was also significantly above the average of 39 percent. The hot, dry conditions have significantly accelerated the heading process. Wheat in the soft dough stage of development was underway at 10 percent. Sixty percent of the rye was jointed and 35 percent was headed by weeks end. Oat planting was nearing completion while oats headed and oats in the soft dough stage were at 15 and 6 percent, respectively.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 23, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat -					
This Week	34	38	23	5	0
Last Week	32	35	28	5	0
Last Year	2	8	34	45	11
Rye -					
This Week	31	40	29	0	0
Oats -					
This Week	57	28	14	1	0

Row Crops: Seedbed preparations surpassed the halfway mark for sorghum, soybeans and peanuts. Seedbed preparations for corn and cotton reached 89 and 74 percent, respectively. By weeks end, corn planted was 45 percent complete, 9 points ahead of last week but 4 points below the five-year average. Nearly a third of the corn crop had emerged. Sorghum and soybean planting was at 11 and 18 percent completed, respectively. Four percent of the cotton and peanuts were planted.

Hay: Alfalfa and other hay harvesting was underway. Hay conditions were also being impacted by the drought. Forty percent of the alfalfa and 72 percent of the other hay were in poor to very poor condition. Growers were reporting the height of alfalfa being short, and in some cases the crop was being sprayed for insect control. Alfalfa and other hay first cuttings were 16 and 12 percent completed, respectively.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions were mostly in fair to poor condition. Hot temperatures and windy weather continued to delay pasture growth. Pond water levels also continued to diminish due to the lack of rainfall.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 23, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	11	29	42	16	2
Other Hay	31	41	24	4	0

Livestock: Livestock conditions were mostly poor-to-fair. Marketings were average. Livestock insect activities were mostly none-to-light. Death loss of cattle was mostly light. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$111.09 per cwt. Prices for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$102.36 per cwt. Ponds continued to dry up causing producers to move cattle to other areas or to sell them.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 23, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	2	35	42	21	0
Pasture & Range	27	33	32	8	0

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending April 23, 2006									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Sorghum -				
Jointing	96	92	96	92	Seedbed Prepared	51	48	51	47
Headed	78	42*	52	39	Planted	11	8	5	7
Soft Dough	10	N/A	N/A	2	Soybeans -				
Rye -					Seedbed Prepared	64	59	51	58
Jointing	60	48	97	38	Planted	18	10	8	15
Headed	35	N/A	N/A	14	Peanuts -				
Soft Dough	17	N/A	N/A	N/A	Seedbed Prepared	52	43	76	72
Oats -					Planted	4	2	6	5
Planted	95	92	100	97	Cotton -				
Jointing	40	32	62	61	Seedbed Prepared	74	66	75	79
Headed	15	N/A	N/A	11	Planted	4	3	N/A	2
Soft Dough	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	Alfalfa -				
Corn -					1 st Cutting	16	N/A	23	18
Seedbed Prepared	89	84	95	90	Other Hay -				
Planted	45	36	46	49	1 st Cutting	12	N/A	10	6
Emerged	29	N/A	24	22	Watermelon -				
					Planted	25	N/A	N/A	6

* Revised

Weather for Week Ending April 23, 2006: Temperatures ranged from 24 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, April 19th, to 102 degrees at Grandfield on Monday, April 17th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 inches in the Central district and 0.45 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 62 degrees at Kenton on Thursday, April 20th, to 82 degrees at Durant on Tuesday, April 18th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending April 23, 2006							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2006 to April 23, 2006		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	82	43	64	0.02	1.16	-1.89	38
West Central	83	52	68	0.08	2.42	-1.97	55
Southwest	85	54	70	0.01	2.72	-1.58	63
North Central	84	49	68	0.05	2.29	-2.66	46
Central	85	55	71	0.00	2.81	-3.14	47
South Central	85	59	72	0.13	4.80	-1.63	75
Northeast	85	53	70	0.04	3.12	-3.62	46
East Central	85	58	72	0.12	4.67	-2.74	63
Southeast	83	58	71	0.45	7.27	-0.65	92

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